15TH BIENNIAL SOUTHERN SILVICULTURAL RESEARCH CONFERENCE

November 17-20, 2008
Hot Springs, AR

ANNOUNCEMENT AND CALL FOR PAPERS

Abstract submission date: March 15, 2008

General Information:

Hot Springs, Arkansas will host the 15th Biennial Southern Silvicultural Research Conference (http://www.srs.fs.fed.us/bssrc2008/index.htm). This meeting will be co-sponsored by the University of Arkansas at Monticello, the Arkansas Forest Resources Center, and the USDA Forest Service, Southern Research Station. Drs. Jim Guldin and Don Bragg are the program chair and arrangements chair, respectively. The event will be held at the Hot Springs Convention Center, and will consist of a poster session, four concurrent sessions, and an optional field trip. As soon as they become available, registration materials will be posted online at: http://www.srs.fs.fed.us/bssrc2008/Registration.htm.

Contributed Oral Presentations and Posters: Concurrent session papers and posters can be on any aspect of silviculture. Talks are limited to 20 minutes, and should use MS PowerPoint (version 2002—we cannot guarantee newer versions will work). Poster size requirements will be given at a later date. Awards will be made for the best student oral and poster presentation.

Oral and Poster Abstract Formats: Papers and posters will be selected based on a submitted abstract (see example at http://www.srs.fs.fed.us/bssrc2008/AbstractSub.htm). For abstracts use a 12 point Arial font, 1 inch margins, single-spaced, and keep the text no more than 250 words long (please see the following page for an example). Title and abstract must be electronically sent or postmarked no later than **March 15, 2008**. Accepted abstracts will be published in a book of abstracts and can be submitted (1) via mail [hardcopy and diskette] to Nancy Koerth, USDA Forest Service, 506 Hayter Street, Nacogdoches, TX 75961, or (2) as an email attachment to **nkoerth@fs.fed.us**. Please use MS Word (preferred) or WordPerfect—NO faxed abstract submittals will be accepted. A notice confirming receipt of the abstract will be sent by Nancy Koerth within 2 weeks of its arrival. If you do not receive confirmation, call 936-569-7981 to report the difficulty. A notice of acceptance or rejection will be sent no later than **August 15, 2008.** Because of time slot limitations, some papers submitted for oral presentation may be accepted instead as a poster presentation.

Publication: Speakers are to submit papers for the conference, which will be published as a General Technical Report by the Southern Research Station. Authors should submit a final manuscript postmarked no later than **January 15, 2009.** Poster presenters may choose to submit a complete paper, a one-page research summary, or neither. Abstracts by themselves will not be published in the GTR. The page limit for manuscripts is six (6) typeset pages, including tables and figures; this equates to 12 single-spaced pages, including tables and figures. Detailed instructions will be sent at a later date. Peer review and editorial review are expected prior to submission for publication. A manuscript review form will be available on the website for all authors to use.

Description of vegetation in several periodically burned longleaf pine forests on the Kisatchie National Forest

James D. Haywood & Finis L. Harris*, respectively, Research Forester, UDSA Forest Service, Southern Research Station, Pineville, LA and graduate student, School of Forestry, Wildlife, and Fisheries, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, LA

In January 1993, the Kisatchie National Forest and Southern Research Station began a cooperative project on two Ranger Districts to monitor how prescribed burning affects overstory and midstory trees and shrubs and understory woody and herbaceous vegetation in upland longleaf pine (*Pinus palustris* Mill.) forests in Louisiana. Longleaf pine is the dominant species on all four sites and represents 81 to 99% of the total stand basal area. Despite similar overstory vegetation and landform characteristics at all sites, there are distinctly different understory plant communities. However, the most frequently occurring grass on all sites was pinehill bluestem (*Schizachyrium scoparium* var. *divergens* [Hack.] Gould). The most frequently occurring forbs were swamp sunflower (*Helianthus angustifolius* L.) and grassleaf goldaster (*Heterotheca graminifolia* [Michx.] Shinners). Overstory canopy cover and regrowth of understory woody vegetation reduced the productivity and occurrence of herbaceous plants despite repeated prescribed burning.